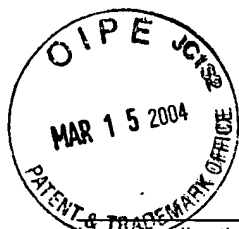


Image AF/1651

Attorney Docket # 3029-74

MS-AF



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yasuhiro SAKAI et al.

Serial No.: 10/005,753

Filed: October 29, 2001

For: Method of Staining, and Detecting and Counting
Bacteria, and a Diluent for Bacterial Stain

Examiner: F. C. Prats
Group Art: 1651

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Kent H. Cheng

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Kent H. Cheng
Signature

March 11, 2004
Date of Signature

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

SIR:

In response to the final Office Action dated January 13, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.